

It is not hard to see the span of influence Paul has had on his students, who are now scattered across the globe. He has nearly 2,000 Facebook friends, mainly made up of past and current students. A quick Internet search of his name will turn up blog post after blog post of former students stating that Paul—or “Mr. Parets”—“changed my life,” “made a difference,” and that A.I. will “never be the same” without him. I think all of us who have experienced the thrills of any of the A.I. duPont bands echo these sentiments. As they say at A.I., “You cannot hide that Tiger Pride,” and I know I share that feeling of pride every time I turn on my TV and see the A.I. duPont Tigers marching down the streets of Pasadena, London or New York. Up and down Delaware, we certainly can’t hide our overwhelming pride for Paul Parets, nor will we be able to hide our heartbreak when he is not on the director’s podium this fall.

Upon Paul’s retirement, he will leave behind a legacy that is a testament to the importance of music in public education and the pure joy—and thrill—of music. His lessons inside and outside of the classroom will remain with his students, our community, and with future generations of A.I. duPont band members. I thank him for his contribution to music education and for his commitment to public service through years as an elected member to the Delaware City Council. I also thank him for the pride he has brought to the First State and for the generations of musicians he has nurtured—a gift that will give time and time again. I wish him, his children, Tim and Meredith, and two grandchildren, Aaron and Abigail, and the rest of his family only the very best in all that lies ahead for each of them. As we say in the Navy, “Bravo Zulu!” to Paul Parets. You are one of a kind, and we are blessed to have known you all of these years.●

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT BLANCHARD

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Scott Blanchard, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Scott is a graduate of Aberdeen Central High School in Aberdeen, SD. Currently, he is attending Northern State University, where he is majoring in political science. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Scott for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO SHILOH DAY

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Shiloh Day, an intern in my Rapid City, SD, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple of months.

Shiloh is a graduate of Highmore High School in Highmore, SD. Currently, she is attending the University of South Dakota, where she is majoring in political science. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Shiloh for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO KELLY HERRMANN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Kelly Herrmann, an intern in my Sioux Falls, SD, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Kelly is a graduate of Stevens High School in Rapid City, SD. Currently, she is attending South Dakota State University, where she is majoring in political science. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Kelly for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO REBECCA REITER

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Rebecca Reiter, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Rebecca is a graduate of Watertown High School in Watertown, SD. Currently, she is attending the University of South Dakota, where she is majoring in political science and criminal justice. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Rebecca for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN ROBB

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Kevin Robb, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Kevin is a graduate of St. Thomas More High School in Rapid City, SD. Currently, he is attending the University of South Dakota, where he is majoring in political science and philosophy. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Kevin for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO SHELBY SCHOON

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Shelby Schoon, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Shelby was home schooled and is a native of Brandon, SD. Currently, she is a graduate of Northwestern College where she majored in business administration and biology health professionals. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Shelby for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:11 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4480. An act to provide for the development of a plan to increase oil and gas exploration, development, and production under oil and gas leases of Federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense in response to a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4480. An act to provide for the development of a plan to increase oil and gas exploration, development, and production under oil and gas leases of Federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense in response to a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted: